Guidelines for OVHA Coverage

ITEM: BLOOD PRESSURE SET UP: SPHYGMOMANOMETER WITH CUFF AND STETHOSCOPE

DEFINITION: The sphygmomanometer with cuff and stethoscope are devices used to monitor blood pressure.

GUIDELINES: These devices are covered only for individuals who have:

- End stage renal disease AND are receiving home dialysis, OR
- Have labile hypertension.

Coverage is only for individuals who are physically and cognitively able to use the device, as an alternative to home health nursing visits (M840.3).

APPLICABLE CODES: A4660 Blood pressure set up: sphygmomanometer/blood pressure apparatus with cuff and stethoscope, for dialysis

EXAMPLES OF DIAGNOSES: End stage renal disease, labile hypertension.

CAUTIONS: Many individuals have difficulty obtaining correct readings, particularly if there are vision and/or hearing issues. Successful training and ability to obtain correct readings are a prerequisite for coverage.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION: Current, completed Certificate of Medical Necessity documenting applicable diagnosis; documentation demonstrating successful training for independent use of the device; documentation demonstrating a reduction in home health nursing visits.

REFERENCES:

Region B DMERC Supplier Manual, revised March 2002. www.hcfa.gov.

Cigna Medicare Region D DMERC: Local Medical Review Policy. www.cignamedicare.com.

Twenty Commonly Asked Questions. Oct 1999. DMERC A . www.umd.nycpic.com.

Medical Director's signature:	
OVHA Director's signature:	
Date:	
Revision 1:	
Revision 2:	
Revision 3:	